

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 3653**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Nobuo HIRAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3653

Application No.: 10/807,257

Examiner: D. BOLLINGER

Filed: March 24, 2004

Docket No.: 119254

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND PLATEN USED THEREIN

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Claims 1 and 3-45 are pending in this application, with claims 24-26, 28, 29, 31-34 and 36-41 being withdrawn. In reply to the December 12, 2007 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested in light of at least the following remarks.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 3-21, 42 and 43.

Claims 1, 22, 23, 27, 35, 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000-158637 (Koyama); and claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyama. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The applied reference fails to disclose or suggest an image forming apparatus comprising at least a plurality of rollers "wherein at least a part of the rollers rotate independently from each other," as recited in independent claim 1.